

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application, among them claims 1 and 11 are independent. All of the pending claims stand rejected. By this amendment, claims 2 and 11-15 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Independent claim 1 is amended, and dependent claims 3-9 are also amended to change the dependencies to claim 1. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-3, 8-11 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,963,374 to Nakamura et al. ("Nakamura"). Claims 4, 5, 7, 14 and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nakamura in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,967,680 to Kagle et al. ("Kagle").

As indicated above, claims 2, 11 and 13 have been cancelled thereby rendering the rejections directed to these claims moot.

In the *Response to Arguments* section, the Final Office Action indicates, *inter alia*, that:

The Examiner acknowledges that the reading of the image data corresponding to the second shutter release does not occur until the exposure/storage operation is completed, as evidenced by figure 8. However, the Examiner refutes that Nakamura et al. does indeed teach that the processing of the image data obtained by the previous image sensing operation occurs in accordance with start of reading of the image data from the image sensing element. See figure 8, column 7, lines 34-40. JPEG compression (i.e., image processing) of the image data obtained by the previous image sensing operation ("JPEG COMPRESSION 1", figure 8), which compression is indicated by "Pd" of figure 8, occurs in accordance with the start of reading ("READOUT 2") of the image data from the

image sensing element (see figure 8). The JPEG compression (i.e., image processing) takes place in an image processing device (JPEG, 212, figure 4), which performs image processing for the image data obtained by said image sensing device (column 7, lines 34-40).

Claim 1 has been amended for further clarification. In particular, the present invention as featured in amended claim 1 requires that:

(1) an image processing device processes the color space conversion for second image data obtained by previous image sensing operation in accordance with start of reading first image data from the image sensing element,

(2) the integral processing for the first image data by said white balance integration device and the color space conversion for second image data by said image processing device processes are performed in parallel during read of the first image signal from the image sensing element, and

(3) the display device displays the object image after the color space conversion processing for the second image data ends in case the integral processing for the first image data ends earlier than the color space conversion processing for the second image data ends.

In contrast, in Nakamura, a color space conversion is performed in "IMAGE PROCESSING 1", and is not performed in "READOUT 2", i.e., Nakamura fails to teach the feature (1) of the present invention as described above.

Further, in Nakamura, a white balance processing is performed in "RAW DATA WRITING 2" which is different from "IMAGE PROCESSING 1" i.e., Nakamura fails to teach the feature (2) of the present invention as described above.

Moreover, in Nakamura, "RAW DATA WRITING 2" is performed after "IMAGE PROCESSING 1" and thereafter "LIVE VIEW" is performed, i.e., Nakamura fails to teach the feature (3) of the present invention.

Also, as Applicant understand it, there is nothing in Kagle that teaches any of the inventive aspects described above.

Accordingly, claim 1 as amended is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious in view of the cited references (i.e., Nakamura and Kagle), either taken alone or in combination, for at least the reasons discussed above.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Applicant has not individually addressed the rejections of the dependent claims because Applicant submits that the independent claims from which they respectively depend are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Applicant however reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary.

Applicant believe that the application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION

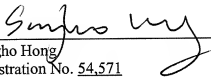
No petitions or additional fees are believed due for this amendment and/or any accompanying submissions. However, to the extent that any additional fees and/or petition is required, including a petition for extension of time, Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to grant such petition, and hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees, including any fees which may be required for such petition, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500 (Order No. 1232-5191). A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: September 6, 2007

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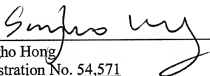
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